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PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Kazumasa KAMACHI et al.

Serial No. 10/551,818



: Confirmation No. 3974

: Attorney Docket No. 2005_1535A

: Group Art Unit 1724

Filed September 30, 2005

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR THE
METHANE FERMENTATION TREATMENT
OF WASTEWATER CONTAINING SULFUR COMPOUND

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and any additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for:

- each U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent application publication;
- each reference previously cited in the international application PCT/_____;
and/or
- each reference previously cited in prior parent application Serial No.
_____.

1a. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

CC: 10/13/06 11:2:00

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

- (1) the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**
- (2) the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

1c. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

2. It is hereby certified

a. that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or

b. that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

3. Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:
- a. a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
 - b. a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
 - c. the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page,
 - d. the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
 - e. the concise explanation for references AK, AAC, AAD, AAE and AAf are set forth below:

References AK, AL, AM, AN, AAA, AAB, AAC, AAD and AAE:

Organic wastewater treatment method using upflow anaerobic sludge blanket reactor.

Reference AAf:

Deodorization of foul smelling sulfur compounds containing H₂S by chemical treatment process.

- A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.
- Statement Under 37 CFR 1.704(d)

Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart application, and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Kazumasa KAMACHI et al.

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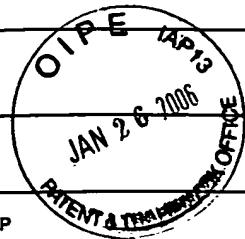
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January 26, 2006

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

ATTY DOCKET NO.
2005_1535ASERIAL NO.
10/551,818U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICELIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Date Submitted to PTO: January 26, 2006

APPLICANT
Kazumasa KAMACHI et al.FILING DATE
September 30, 2005GROUP
1724

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	AF	03/042116	5/2003	WO			Abstract
	AG	10-156385	6/1998	JP			Abstract
	AH	2000-263084	9/2000	JP			Abstract
	AI	2001-232388	8/2001	JP			Abstract
	AJ	10-249383	9/1998	JP			Abstract

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AK	Yasuhiro HONMA and Toshihiro TANAKA, entitled " <u>METHANE PRODUCING • HIGH EFFICIENCY • ENERGY-SAVING ORGANIC WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM</u> ", vol. 68, no. 12, Chemical Engineering Journal, published on December, 2004 (relevant portions: pgs. 707-710).
	AL	Yasuhiro HONMA; Kazumasa KAMACHI and Toshihiro TANAKA, entitled " <u>START UP EGSB REACTOR FROM ANAEROBIC DIGESTER SLUDGE</u> ", The 38th Symposium Journal by Japan Society on Water Environment, published on March, 2004 (relevant portions: pg. 357).
	AM	Yasuhiro HONMA; Toshihiro TANAKA and Kazumasa KAMACHI, entitled " <u>PERFORMANCE OF EGSB REACTOR IN HIGH SS WASTE WATER TREATMENT</u> ", The 37th Symposium Journal by Japan Society on Water Environment, published on March, 2003 (relevant portions: p. 276).
	AN	Yasuhiro HONMA; Toshihiro TANAKA and Masahiro ISAKA, entitled " <u>PERFORMANCE OF THE EGSB REACTOR IN HIGH-LOAD ORGANIC WASTEWATER TREATMENT</u> ", The 36th Symposium Journal by Japan Society on Water Environment, published March, 2003 (relevant portions: p. 476).

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) Date Submitted to PTO: January 26, 2006			ATTY DOCKET NO. 2005_1535A		SERIAL NO. 10/551,818		
			APPLICANT Kazumasa KAMACHI et al.				
			FILING DATE September 30, 2005		GROUP 1724		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
	AAA	Yasuhiro HONMA; Toshihiro TANAKA and Yuichi ISOZAKI, entitled " <u>PERFORMANCE OF THE EGSR REACTOR IN HIGH-LOAD ORGANIC WASTEWATER TREATMENT</u> ", (Chemical Apparatus), published March, 2003 (relevant portions: Nos. 1 to 4).					
	AAB	Yasuhiro HONMA, entitled " <u>PERFORMANCE OF THE EGSR REACTOR IN HIGH-LOAD ORGANIC WASTEWATER TREATMENT</u> ", vol. 27, no. 4, published January, 2002 (relevant portions: pgs. 52-55).					
	AAC	Yasuhiro HONMA; Toshihiro TANAKA; Susumu ADACHI and Yuichi ISOZAKI, entitled " <u>PERFORMANCE OF THE EGSR REACTOR IN HIGH-LOAD ORGANIC WASTEWATER TREATMENT</u> ", No. 194, Ebara Journal, published January, 2002 (relevant portions: pgs. 21-24).					
	AAD	Kazushi YASUDA, entitled " <u>WASTEWATER TREATMENT BY HIGH-SPEED UASB REACTOR</u> ", vol. 39, no. 7, Countermeasures for Environmental Resources, published 2003 (relevant portions: pgs. 66-67).					
	AAE	Yuichi ISOZAKI, entitled "PERFORMANCE OF EGSR REACTOR IN HIGH-LOAD INDUSTRIAL WASTE WATER TREATMENT" (Industrial Machinery) published June 2002, (relevant portions: pgs. 17-19).					
	AAF	Sigeaki NUMATA and Souichi SHIBUYA, entitled " <u>CHEMICAL DEODORIZATION OF THE FOUL SMELLING SULFUR COMPOUNDS</u> ", vol. 50, no. 2, Journal of Paper & Pulp Technology Association, published February 1996 (relevant portions: pgs. 40-45).					
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of form with next communication to applicant.

